

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE TO HOST ARIZONA'S FIRST SUPER SEMINAR ON STRUCTURED ENGLISH IMMERSION

PHOENIX (Thursday, May 29, 2003) -- Superintendent Tom Horne on Saturday, May 31, will host the Arizona Department of Education's first Super Seminar on Structured English Immersion. The Super Seminar is the first of several opportunities for English language learner (ELL) teachers and coordinators to obtain knowledge and skills in order to support the academic achievement for English language learners.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-756B, Superintendent Horne issued guidelines on February 12, 2003, for the monitoring of school districts for the purpose of ensuring compliance with all federal and state laws. The guidelines includes monitoring to ensure compliance with Proposition 203 requiring for the teaching of Structured English Immersion to all English language learners (ELL) in order that they become proficient in English.

"Once students acquire good English skills, they then have the opportunity to soar academically," said Superintendent Horne. "In keeping with my promise to comply with Proposition 203, and consistent with the Department's service orientation and its desire to help schools effectively bring students to English fluency as quickly as possible, this Super Seminar will be a wonderful professional development training service for the State's teachers."

The Super Seminar on Structured English Immersion will be held on Saturday, May 31, 2003 at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel in Phoenix from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Department has planned a high quality, sustained, intensive and classroom focused professional development program in structured English Immersion for teachers and coordinators for English language learner (ELL) programs.

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